

GENERAL ORDERS, }
No. 65. }

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, June 12, 1862.

I..Paragraph 1269 Army Regulations is hereby so modified, that Private Physicians, employed as Medical Officers with an Army in the field in time of war, may be allowed a sum not to exceed one hundred and twenty-five dollars per month, besides transportation in kind.

II..The certificates of discharge to be given by the Medical Inspector General, or any Medical Inspector of the Army, under the Act of May 14, 1862, published in "General Orders," No. 53, will be made on the printed forms for Certificates of Disability, prescribed by the Army Regulations. The Inspector giving the discharge will endorse it with his own certificate that it is granted upon his own personal inspection of the soldier, and with the soldier's consent; and for disability, the nature, degree, and origin of which are correctly described in the within certificate.

III..Each Medical Director must, under the orders of his Department Commander, regulate the distribution of the sick and wounded to the hospitals within the Military Department to which he belongs. When want of room in such hospitals, or the nature of the wounds or diseases of any invalids, require that detachments shall be sent beyond the limits of their departments, the Surgeon General will designate to the Medical Directors, either by general instructions, or specially by telegraph, to what points they shall be sent. Officers, whose duty it may become to forward such detachments, will take care that no men, except those provided with written passes from their hospital surgeon or the Medical Director, shall be allowed to go.

Furloughs will not be given by Captains of Companies or Colonels of Regiments on any pretext whatever. A furlough from such authority will not relieve a soldier from the charge of desertion.

Enlisted men absent from their regiments without proper authority, are in fact *deserters*, and not only forfeit all pay and allowances, but are subject to the penalties awarded by law to such offenders. No plea of sickness, or other cause not *officially* established, and no certificate of a physician in civil life, unless it be approved by some officer acting as a military commander, *will hereafter avail to remove the charge of desertion, or procure arrears of pay*, when a soldier has been mustered as absent from his regiment *without leave*.

By application to the Governors of their States, or to any Military Commander, or United States Mustering Officer in a city, transportation can be procured to their regiments by soldiers who are otherwise able to join them.

Where no Military Commander has been appointed, the senior officer of the Army on duty as Mustering, or Recruiting Officer in the place, is hereby authorized and required to act in that capacity until another may be appointed.

Under "General Orders," No. 36, it is the duty of Military Commanders to collect all stragglers and forward them to their regiments. To do this, they must establish camps or depôts, under strict military discipline, and maintain sufficient guards to enforce this order. Convalescents in army hospitals will be reported by the surgeons in charge to the Military Commanders, to be kept at their camps or depôts until they can be sent to join their regiments. Muster rolls of each detachment will be made out from the best data at hand, the statement of the men being taken in the absence of other information concerning them. A duplicate of each muster roll must be forwarded to the Adjutant General the day the detachment starts.

To avoid confusion and retain necessary control over all soldiers in the United States service, those who are entertained in State or private hospitals must be subject to the nearest Military Commander, and are hereby required to report to him in person as soon as they become convalescent.

Immediately after receipt of this order, each Military Commander will publish, three times, in some newspaper, a brief notice requiring all United States soldiers in that city and the country around, who are not under treatment in a United States hospital, to report themselves to him without delay on penalty of being considered deserters. In cases of serious disability from wounds or sickness, which may prevent obedience to this requirement, the soldier must furnish a certificate of a physician of good standing, describing his case, on which, if satisfactory, the Military Commander may grant a written furlough for not exceeding thirty days, or a discharge on the prescribed form of a certificate of disability, made out strictly according to the Regulations. But no discharges will be given on account of rheumatism, or where there is a prospect of recovery within a reasonable time.

Military Commanders may discharge men, *at their own request*, who exhibit to them satisfactory proof of their being *paroled* prisoners of

war. To other paroled men they will give furloughs until notified of their exchange, or discharged the service.

Military Commanders will report to the Adjutant General, tri-monthly, the names, companies, regiments, and residences of all the soldiers furloughed or discharged by them; and forward, at the same time, the certificates of disability in case of discharge.

They will make timely requisitions for the blanks, and such other things as may be necessary for the proper execution of this order.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Assistant Adjutant General.